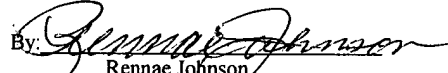


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HELMAN et al. Examiner: Lu, T.  
Serial No.: 09/668,974 Group Art Unit: 2621  
Filed: September 25, 2000 Docket No.: 8X8S.219PA  
Allowed: September 9, 2004 Confirmation No.: 3139  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING FRAMES OF IMAGE  
DATA AT A VARYING QUALITY LEVEL



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this communication is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 16, 2004.

By:   
Rennae Johnson

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0996 (8X8S.219PA) the amount of \$1,403.00 (\$1400.00 for the Issue Fee and \$3.00 for Patent Copy).
- ☒ Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal.
- ☒ 5 pages for Formal Drawings.
- ☒ 1 Return Postcard.
- ☒ If appropriate, charge Deposit Account No. 50-0996 (8X8S.219PA) for any fee deficiency or overage.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers.

CRAWFORD MAUNU PLLC  
1270 Northland Drive, Suite 390  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55120  
651-686-6633 • fax 651-686-7111

By:   
Name: Robert J. Crawford  
Reg. No.: 32,122



PATENT

Date of Notice of Allowance: September 9, 2004  
Confirmation No.: 3139

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HELMAN et al. Examiner: Lu, T.  
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Rennae Johnson

SUBMISSION OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

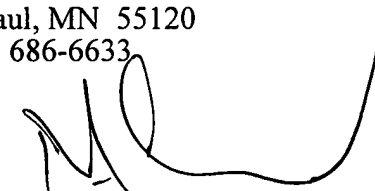
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith are 5 sheets of Formal Drawings for completion of this application.  
The drawings previously filed were informal.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAWFORD MAUNU PLLC  
1270 Northland Drive  
Suite 390  
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(651) 686-6633

By:   
Robert J. Crawford  
Reg. No. 32,122



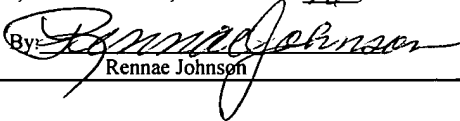
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	HELMAN <i>et al.</i>	Examiner:	Lu, T.
Serial No.:	09/668,974	Group Art Unit:	2621
Filed:	September 25, 2000	Docket No.:	8X8S.219PA
Title:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCODING FRAMES OF IMAGE DATA AT A VARYING QUALITY LEVEL		

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2004.

By:   
Rennae Johnson

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE  
c/o Technology Center 3600  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Examiner's statement for allowance could be construed to imply that the claimed invention was allowed because the reference of record did not disclose certain aspects of the client invention. The characterized aspects, however, if indeed found in the prior art, would not render the claimed invention invalid under §102 because the claimed invention includes a number of other limitations. With respect to §103, the rigors of establishing a prima facie case of obviousness include not only showing that the prior art teaches the entire claimed invention (all limitations are to be considered), but also that combining the various prior art references is suggested in the art or that there would be motivation to make the combination. The Reasons provided do not appear to be necessarily inconsistent herewith.

Unless Applicant hears otherwise, Applicant's comments herein are, as intended,  
clarifying in a manner consistent with the law.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Robert J. Crawford

Reg. No.: 32,122